

1851.

The Reports of the Town
of Bristol were first
printed in 1851. In 1869,
there were more printed



REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN AND SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

FOR THE

TOWN OF BRISTOL, N. H.,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

MARCH, 1851.



MANCHESTER :

UNION DEMOCRAT PRESS,—WM. H. GILMORE & CO.

1851.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

DISBURSMENTS BY THE SELECTMEN.

Paid for the support of Schools.

Dist. No. 1, Arial Dickin,.....	18 04	
2, O. F. Fowler,.....	112 18	
3, Hiram Nelson,.....	25 59	
4, J. P. Fellows,.....	21 07	
5, D. S. Mason,.....	45 48	
6, A. Kidder,.....	35 24	
7, B. Cass,.....	12 79	
8, T. R. Emmons,.....	43 44	
9, John Hastings,.....	41 61	
10, J. S. Chase,.....	30 00	
10, M. C. Hoyt,.....	54 18	
11, D. S. Smith,.....	41 89	
1851.		—481 51
Mar. 1. Paid D. O. Morton, ministerial money for Congregational Society,.....	2 00	
Paid Albert C. Manson, ministerial money for Methodist Society,.....	2 00	
Paid Sam'l P. Fernald, ministerial money for the Free-will Baptist Society,.....	2 00	—6 00
Paid State tax,.....	171 00	
Paid County tax,.....	378 61	
		—549 68
1850.	<i>School House Money, Dist. No. 2.</i>	
May 25. Paid Levi Bartlett,.....	200 00	
June 1. " ".....	14 50	
July 13. " J. S. Eaton,.....	28 67	
Dec. 28. " Wm. Chase,.....	7 00	
1851.		
Feb. 15. Paid Henry Wells,.....	10 00	
" O. F. Fowler,.....	2 75	
	<i>Abatement School House tax in Dist. No. 2, 1849-50.</i>	
Mar. 3. Paid Jona. Moulton,.....	3 12	
" Wm. Thomas,.....	3 27	
" Michael Doud,.....	1 53	
		—270 84
1850.	<i>School House money, Dist. No. 10.</i>	
Sept. 5. Paid T. R. Emmons for building Bank wall,	12 00	
Nov. " Sam'l C. Brown, for grading,.....	16 50	

1851.

Jan. 25.	Paid J. S. Chase, services as committee,....	8 00	
	“ H. K. Fuller, for plan,.....	1 00	
	<i>Abatement School House tax in Dist. No. 10.</i>		
	Paid James Fife,.....	3 00	
		—	40 50
1850.	<i>School House Money, Dist. No. 11.</i>		
Aug. 31.	Paid Nathan Sleeper, Jr.,.....	14 60	
		—	14 60

1850. REPAIRING HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES.

May 25.	Paid E. W. Cheney for labor on depot road,	7 75	
	“ C. P. Fellows, “ “	1 75	
	“ Joseph Kidder “ “	4 00	
Jan.	“ Hosea Ballou, for lumber,.....	90	
Aug. 3.	“ Osmond Gale, for labor,.....	11 80	
Oct. 5.	“ S. J. W. Sleeper, for plank,.....	1 15	
	“ Jacob Webster, for labor on Bridge,..	1 75	
	“ R. H. Sawyer, for labor,.....	7 50	
8.	“ Joshua T. Kendall, for plank,.....	2 88	
	“ Stephen Nelson, labor on Bridge, &c.,.	9 50	
	“ Hiram Nelson, for labor,.....	3 90	
	“ Kiah Wells, “	2 75	
	“ Alva Smith, “	4 72	
	“ Joseph Kidder, “	10 75	
Nov. 9.	“ O. S. Hall, “	1 75	
	“ H. T. Sevrens, for plank,.....	17 23	
30.	“ J. E. Sleeper, for building culvert, and labor on highway,.....	16 00	
	Paid D. S. Mason, for lumber on Pine Hill,	31 66	
	“ J. H. Prescott, lumber and labor on de- pot road,.....	14 78	
Dec. 28.	Paid S. H. Rollins, plank and labor,.....	11 40	
	“ P. S. Drake, “ “	1 50	
1851.			
Jan. 25.	“ Levi Bartlett, “	17 92	
	“ Joshua I. Kendall, plank,.....	92	
	“ E. W. Cheney, labor,.....	3 60	
Feb. 15.	“ Aaron Kidder, plank,.....	67	
	“ S. S. Fellows, labor,.....	5 77	
	“ Ariel Dickinson, plank,.....	3 75	
	“ D. B. Bartlett, plank,.....	4 51	
	“ Merrill Emmons, labor,.....	75	
22.	“ Stephen Bohonon, “	1 25	
	“ J. Prescott, “	1 25	
	“ J. H. Prescott, labor on highways, by request of A. Lovejoy and Wm. Chase, in the fall of 1849,.....	10 00	
Mar. 1.	Paid Calvin Swett, for labor and lumber,...	3 62	

March 1.	Paid Nathan Sleeper, Jr., labor,	2 75
	“ James Foster, “ and lumber,	2 25
	“ Reuben Rollins, “	1 15
	“ S. S. Fellows, “	1 96
	“ Moses Merrill, “	75
	“ Samuel C. Brown, “	22 73
		<hr/> 251 02

1850.

CURRENT EXPENSES.

Mar. 30.	Paid Jonas W. Haines, painting Town House,	35 00
	“ Levi Bartlett, services as Committee for building Town House,	10 00
May 25.	Paid Joseph Kidder, for the use of Freewill Baptist Meeting House, the year 1849, ..	25 00
June 29.	Paid O. F. Fowler, expense on G. W. Heath case,	10 51
Oct.	Paid Soldiers, on muster-day, and expenses, ..	18 00
1851.		
Feb. 15.	Paid Asa Martin, for serving notice on the Town of Hebron, in 1849,	2 46
22.	Paid Bartlett & Taylor, for C. S. Bidee, ..	141 81
	“ Levi Bartlett, “ “ “ ..	5 00
	“ Timo. Chandler, stone post on Town line, ..	75
Mar. 1.	“ N. B. Bryant, on G. W. Heath case, ..	3 50
	“ M. C. Sawyer, stationery,	2 42
	“ M. C. Hoyt, medical attendance on A. Hutchinson, County Pauper,	18 00
	Paid J. Hoyt and M. Simons, expense for N. Heath,	14 17
		<hr/> 286 62

1851.

TOWN OFFICERS' BILLS.

Mar. 1.	Paid H. B. Fowler, services as Town Clerk, ..	7 00
	“ M. C. Sawyer, “ “ “ ..	2 50
	“ S. Cavis, services as Town Treasurer, ..	10 00
	“ J. S. Chase, for collecting taxes,	28 50
	“ M. C. Hoyt, services, Supt. school Com. ..	16 00
	“ N. B. Bryant, “ “ “ “ ..	9 75
		<hr/> 73 75
1850.	<i>Paid Samuel C. Brown, services as Selectman.</i>	
Mar. 14.	1-2 day disposing of the poor,	50
Apr. 6.	4 1-2 days preparing and taking inventory, ..	4 50
	5 days making taxes, surveyors warrants, &c., ..	5 00
May 1.	1 day on sundry business,	1 00
June 6.	1 “ “ “	1 00
29.	1 “ “ “ “	1 00
July	1 1-2 day at sundry times on roads,	1 50
Aug. 31.	1-2 day on town business,	50

Sept. 21.	1 day warning meeting,.....	1 00
23.	1 " perambulating town line,.....	1 00
Oct.	Giving orders at sundry times,.....	1 00
Nov. 12.	1-2 day on Town business,.....	50
30.	" " "	50
Dec. 28.	" " "	50
1851.		
Jan. 25.	1-2 day on Town business,.....	50
Feb. 15.	1 " "	1 00
22.	1-2 " "	50
Mar. 1.	2 " "	2 00
	Settling Town officers and making report,..	8 00
		— 31 50
	Cash paid for Curtains for office, Wood, Post- age, Stationery, &c.,.....	1 79—1 79

1850. *Paid Calvin Swett, services as Selectman.*

Mar. 14.	1-2 day disposing of the poor,.....	50
	3 1-2 days taking inventory,.....	3 50
	5 days making taxes, warrants, &c.,.....	5 00
	Cash paid out,.....	2 50
	Recording taxes,.....	4 00
May 11.	1-2 day on business,.....	75
June. 1.	" " " and cash paid out,.....	92
6.	1 " " " "	1 25
Aug. 31.	1-2 " " "	50
Sept. 21.	1 day warning meeting,.....	1 25
23.	1 " perambulating line and cash,.....	1 50
Oct. 5.	1-2 day on business,.....	50
8.	" " "	50
24.	1 day perambulating and cash,.....	1 50
Nov. 12.	1-2 day on business,.....	50
	" " "	60
Dec. 21.	Going to N. Hampton to search records,..	75
28.	1-2 day on business,.....	50
1851.		
Jan. 25.	1-2 day on business,.....	50
Feb. 15.	1 " "	1 25
22.	1-2 " "	50
	" " " and cash paid out,.....	75
Mar. 2.	2 " "	2 50
		— 32 02

1850. *Paid Joseph Kidder, services as Selectman.*

Mar. 16.	1-2 day disposing of the poor,.....	50
18.	1 day providing for Mrs. Gurdy,.....	1 00
Apr. 5.	3 1-2 days taking inventory,.....	3 50
	5 " making taxes,.....	5 00
	1 1-2 " town business, cash paid out,....	1 75
June 8.	1 " examining highway,.....	1 00
29.	1-2 " on town business,.....	50

Aug. 31.	1-2 day on town business,.....	50	
Sept. 18.	" " " "	50	
23.	1 " perambulating town line,.....	1 00	
Oct. 5.	1-2 " on town business,.....	50	
8.	" " " "	50	
24.	1 " perambulating town line,.....	1 00	
	Cash,.....	35	
Nov. 9.	1-2 day on town business,.....	50	
30.	" " " " "	50	
Dec. 23.	" " " " "	50	
1851.			
Jan. 25.	1-2 day on town business,.....	50	
Feb. 12.	Journey and expense to Plymouth,.....	1 50	
15.	1-2 day on town business,.....	50	
22.	" " " " " cash paid out,....	90	
March 2	1-2 " " " "	2 50	
			25 00

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Paid J. C. Bartlett, poll tax,.....	2 19	
" Ebenezer Kendall, excess in valuation on the Bedee estate,.....	2 99	
Paid George Webster, by vote of the town poll tax for 1849 and 1850,.....	7 37	
Paid James Musgrove, poll tax,.....	1 65	
" Reuben Rollins, on mill, 1849,.....	15 00	
" T. N. Patterson, "	6 00	
" Jona. Moulton, "	2 31	
" Wm. Thomas, "	2 42	
" C. F. Clifford, "	2 42	
" Rufus Harris, "	2 43	
" James Fife, "	2 31	
" Luther Atwood, "	1 65	
" T. N. Patterson, 1850,.....	1 65	
" Michel Doud, "	1 65	
" Horace Heath, "	1 65	
		53 69

1850. SUPPORT OF THE POOR.

May.	Paid potatoes for A. Hutchinson,.....	2 50
June 29.	" Hosea Ballou, for boarding M. Simons,	4 50
Nov. 30.	" A. J. Crockett, for Coffin for S. Truell,	3 25
Dec. 25.	" J. S. Eaton, for clothing E. A. Hoyt,.	8 10
1851.		
Jan. 25.	Paid Hiram Nelson, support of S. Truell,...	53 25
Feb. 25.	" Isaac K. George, for rent on the Hutch- inson place,.....	20 00

Feb. 25.	Paid taxes on Hutchinson place,.....	1 00
Mar. 1.	“ C. P. Fellows, for the support of Josiah Fellows and Mary Allen,.....	106 00
	Paid M. C. Hoyt, for medical attendance on the Hutchinson family 24 visits,.....	13 05
	Paid on Almira Hobert's child, 30 visits....	20 50
	“ “ S. Truell,.....	1 00
	“ “ E. Truell,.....	25
	“ “ Polly Lowell,.....	67
	“ “ Mrs. Gurdy,.....	1 66
	“ Nathan Sleeper, for the support of Polly Lowell,.....	34 67
	Paid John Fowler, for Betsy Cleaveland,..	39 25
	“ Adoniram Kidder, for Lydia Gurdy,..	43 33
	“ Jacob Webster, for Betsy Cleaveland,.	14 58
	“ “ “ John Gurdy's wife,	11 86
	“ Levi Nelson, for the expense by the death of S. Truell,.....	1 00
	Paid Luther Ingalls, for digging S. Truell's grave,.....	1 00
		<hr/> 351 67

*The Selectmen credit the Town for the year ending March,
1851, as follows :*

By list of taxes assessed in April, 1850,...	2017 05
“ Railroad tax, 1850,.....	120 81
“ Literary fund for 1850,.....	39 87
“ Highway tax paid in money,.....	20 30
“ Cash on C. P. Fellows' notes,.....	159 17
“ “ Jere. Johnson's note,.....	7 10
“ “ of Town of Bridgewater,.....	14 17
“ “ “ Peter Bean,.....	22 50
“ “ “ A. Lovejoy, treasurer for 1849,	50 00
“ Highway tax paid in money,.....	40 01
“ use of town house,.....	3 50
	<hr/> 2494 48
Total amount of disbursement,.....	2500 19
“ “ “ receipts,.....	2494 48
	<hr/> 5 71

ESTIMATED DEBTS AGAINST THE TOWN,
March, 1851.

Levi Bartlett,.....	211 50
Miss Whittemore,.....	151 16
J. M. R. Emmons,.....	272 01
School money unappropriated,.....	4 08
School House money unappropriated, Dist. No. 2,.....	55 72

School House money unappropriated, Dist.

No. 10,	37 19
	<hr/> 732 69

SCHEDULE OF NOTES AND CLAIMS

Due the Town March, 1851.

Names.	Date.	Principal.	Interest.	Am't due.
C. P. Fellows,	April 10, 1848,	\$100 00	\$18 32	118 32
"	" " "	100 00	18 32	118 32
"	" " "	100 00	18 32	118 32
Tim. Wiggin,	Oct. 3, 1849,	9 00	72	9 72
B. Q. Fellows, }	March 1, 1851,	18 00		18 00
G. Ingalls, Jr., }				
Reuben Lowell,	June 2, 1843,	150 00	84 90	234 90
G. Ingalls, Jr.,	Dec. 1, 1849,	6 56		6 56
Calvin Swett,	Jan. 5, 1850,	11 40	79	12 19
Daniel Sleeper,	Dec. 1, 1849,	3 07		3 07
S. H. Rollins,	Nov. 30, "			12 72
G. Ingalls, Jr.,	Nov. 20, 1832,	100 00	*6 00	106 00
County Pauper claim,				18 00
A. Lovejoy. Treasurer for year 1849,				49 21
J. S. Chase, Collector, " " "				362 70
" " non-resident highway, 1849, '50,				25 24
S. H. Rollins, " " 1848,				9 09
				<hr/> \$1222 36

\$400 00 of which may be collected within the year.

Which is respectfully submitted by

SAMUEL C. BROWN,	} Selectmen of Bristol.
CALVIN SWETT.	
JOSEPH KIDDER.	

BRISTOL. March 6, 1851.

*One year.



R E P O R T

OF

COMMON SCHOOLS IN BRISTOL,

FOR 1850-51.

The Superintending School Committee respectfully submit the following Report.

In presenting their Annual Report the Committee would first say, that there has been an increasing interest on the part of parents generally, for the education of the youth and for the improvement of our Common Schools, the nursery wherein germinates the first principles of a cultivated mind. This feeling, so plainly exhibited in various ways, has done much to encourage our teachers and to excite an interest among the scholars. This we think is very commendable, for it is too often the case, that the parent only becomes interested in the District School, as he sees the flame kindling in every day's appearance of his child. The parent should be the one, first to manifest an interest in our Common Schools, and the child, as if by magic, will catch the spirit—choosing the school room and its duties in preference to any and everything else.

Notwithstanding the increasing interest generally felt by the parent in the cause of our Common Schools, the chief pillars in our Republican Institutions—the grand basis on which rests the perpetuity of our government—there are many things that very materially act against the best endeavors of the Committee, and very much retard the operation of those elements, the development of which would be replete in those principles necessary to a perfect system of Town Schools. The Committee would not recommend the upholding of a teacher in anything that did not comport with a thorough and systematic course of instruction, nor the sustaining of a teacher who does not possess sufficient firmness of character to govern as well as to instruct his pupils; but we would have the parent co-operate with the teacher in the adoption of good regulation, preserving good order, and in the recitation of a perfect lesson. The parent who has a child of sufficient age to be a scholar in a District School, well knows the propensities of the youth's mind, its evasive course, and its inclination to idleness. If it is such a difficult thing, and at times so perplexing, to govern a family of three to six children, what think you of governing fifty or sixty scholars of different shades of character, with different temperaments and habits of studiousness? Certainly the teach-

er needs the sympathies of every parent, as well as the prayers of every Christian in the community in which he is placed. Secondly.—We need more funds to lengthen out our Schools. In some of the Districts we have from seven to ten weeks schooling during the year; in no District have we had more than five and a half months; we should have from six to ten months schooling during the year in every District.—The remedy for this is evident, we have only to raise a sufficient sum to be appropriated to this specific purpose. But to raise more money than the law requires, and to pay it out for such a School as we had last winter is preposterous. Thus the people reason.

The truth is, if you have money enough to command the services of a competent teacher, you will have a good School. Then will you be remunerated for all your money and trouble. Thirdly.—We need a thorough and systematic course of instruction, adopted in every School. To do this, it is necessary that experienced teachers should be engaged, at least, those who know the theory, and have the ability to make a practical application of it. Our prudential Committee then, should be men that are interested in the cause in which they are engaged. It is for them to judge of the ability of the applicant; whether he is capable of governing the School in which he wishes to place himself as teacher; for he may be ever so learned, if he cannot govern his pupils, he cannot teach them to think steadily, correctly, and deeply. The Teachers' Institute, in our humble opinion, is calculated to supply a desideratum, so long needed in this vicinity, as a means in the qualification of our teachers. * It is here that teachers can get a thorough, yet practical system of instruction to be adopted by them in our Common Schools. Can we appropriate twenty or thirty dollars to any other purpose, from which our children will receive so great an annuity? In closing these remarks we have only to add, that, we have endeavored to make a full and faithful report of the condition of our Schools; have pointed out their bad, as well as good, features; for it is quite as necessary that we should know our errors that we may correct them, as it is that we should know our virtues that we may practice them.

DISTRICT No. 1. One term of seven weeks, during the year, taught by Miss Ellen S. Sumner, a teacher of some experience and well calculated to instruct the youth. The Scholars, most of them, made good progress. Whole No. of Scholars attending School two weeks, 11. Average No., 9. Loss to the School, about 1-5.

DISTRICT No. 2. Summer-term taught twelve weeks by Miss Mary H. Cummings, a teacher of considerable experience. Order bad; progress not general, was not satisfactory to the Committee. Whole No. of Scholars 60. Average No. 48. Loss to the School 1-5. Winter term, taught ten weeks by Mr. S. S. Preston, order bad; improvement with a few, quite perceptible. Whole No. of Scholars 51. Average attendance 33. Lost to the School 1-3.

DISTRICT No. 3. One term during the year; taught eight and a half weeks, by two teachers. Commenced by Miss Angeline D. Smith and closed by Mr. Nelson. Both teachers maintained good order and general progress was very perceptible. Whole No. of Scholars attending School two weeks, 19. Average attendance, 15. Loss to the School, 1-5.

DISTRICT No. 4. Summer term taught six weeks by Miss Rachel L. Moor. This School always appears well. Whole No. of Scholars, 15. Average No., 14. Winter term taught eight weeks by Miss Jane L. Moor. Discipline good. Whole No. of Scholars, 14. Average No., 13. Loss, 1-14. If the Scholars in every District in Town were as constant in their attendance as in this School, we could report much better general progress.

DISTRICT No. 5. One term of public School during the year, taught eleven weeks by Miss Maria G. Ayer, a teacher, every way qualified for her business. Discipline good. Whole No. of Scholars, 30. Average Attendance, 25. Loss to the School, 1-6.

DISTRICT No. 6. Summer term taught six weeks by Miss Angeline Robinson, a teacher of some experience; order good—progress commendable. Whole No. of Scholars 24. Average No. attending, 21.—Loss to the School, 1-8. Winter term taught five weeks by Mr. Reuben Rollins, an experienced teacher and good disciplinarian; good improvement. Whole No. of Scholars, 21. Average attendance, 18.—This School was commenced by a young man by the name of Hyde, who failed in government, as too many do, and left the School.

DISTRICT No. 7. One term during the year taught nine weeks by Miss Sarah A. Sleeper, a young and promising teacher; progress commendable. Whole No. of Scholars, 12. Average No. attending, 10. Loss to the School, 1-6.

DISTRICT No. 8. One term during the year taught eleven weeks and-a-half by Miss Margaret H. Sleeper, who taught the Summer School in District, No. 10. Whole No. of Scholars, 27. Average attendance, 20. Loss to the School, 1-4. Improvement with those, who were constant in their attendance, good.

DISTRICT No. 9. Summer term taught five weeks, two and-a-half days, by Miss Laura L. Mudgett; progress commendable. This was her first School. With more energy in the government of her School—and spirit in her manner of instruction, she may become a good teacher. Whole No. of Scholars, 28. Average attendance, 20. Loss to the School nearly 1-3. Winter term not reported.

DISTRICT No. 10. Summer term taught eight weeks by Miss Margaret H. Sleeper. Whole No. of Scholars, 42. Average attendance,

32. Loss to the School, 1-4. Miss Sleeper is evidently an experienced teacher, correct scholar, and imbued her pupils with a love of good order and a desire to improve. Progress, good. Winter term taught two weeks by Mr. Levi Little. Failing in government he left the School. Mr. S. C. Roby finished out the School making in all seven weeks.—Whole No. of Scholars, 50. Average attendance, 40. Loss, 1-5.

Mr. Roby is truly a practical as well as a systematic instructor; a thorough disciplinarian; yet kind and indulgent with his pupils. We would refer to this as a model School both in point of discipline and method of instruction. The teacher, in his report to the committee, after speaking in high terms in relation to the interest generally manifested by the parents of this District in the education of the youth, he says: "but when some of the parents of a District (as has been in one instance in this District) use every means in their power to thwart the commands and requisitions of the teacher, by sustaining and upholding their children in their disobedience, and evasive course—taking them out of School, or by sending some express for them while being made to perform their part in their class; it does much towards, and often entirely destroys the interests of the School. Such a parent is not worthy the name of a parent, and ought to be considered a perfect nuisance to the cause of our Common Schools. Such conduct should be frowned upon by all lovers of education and friends of the District School."

DISTRICT No. 11.—Summer term not reported. Winter term taught six weeks by Miss Angeline D. Smith, a young and energetic teacher. Order good—progress commendable. Whole No. of Scholars attending School two weeks, 15. Average No. attending, 13. Loss to the School, 1-7.

M. C. HOYT,
N. B. BRYANT.

For Superintending School Committee.

BRISTOL, March 6, 1851.



